

SAW:lcm 11/3/03 MS147309.01
PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 3382-53696
Application Number 09/432,853

Remarks

Claims 1-6 and 23-38 remain pending.

Patentability over Lawson and Krishnamurthy

Claims 1-6 have been rejected over Lawson et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,185,613 [hereafter "Lawson"] in view of Krishnamurthy et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,389,464 [hereafter "Krishnamurthy"]. Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a distributed computing system in which potentially a controlled device maintains a state table, and possibly many user controller devices obtain respective copies of the state table and receive notifications of changes to the state table. This allows the user controller devices to have concurrently updated copies of the state table, and present device control interfaces based on their respective updated copies of the state table that accurately reflect the controlled device's state. In particular, claim 1 recites,

a state table maintained by the controlled computing device and representing an operational state of the controlled computing device;

a user controller device having user input/output capability for presenting a user perceptible device control interface for remote user interaction with the controlled computing device to effect a change in the operational state of the controlled computing device represented in the state table;

a user control point module in the user controller device operating to obtain the state table of the user controller device and subscribe to change notifications of the state table; and

an event source module in the controlled computing device operating according to an eventing model to distribute the change notifications to any subscribing user controller device upon a change to the state table representing the operational state of the controlled computing device, wherein the change notifications represent the respective change in the state table, so as to thereby synchronize the user perceptible device control interface with the changed operational state among said any subscribing user controller device.

The cited art fails to teach or suggest these limitations.

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Lawson describes a system and method for global event notification. Lawson in its background discussion describes an event notification system that sends event notifications to other systems to notify them of an event, such as in an example where a network printer sends a print job complete notification. (See, Lawson at column 1, lines 39-67.) However, Lawson does not show a device having a state table, and lacks any suggestion to send notifications of changes to the device's state table to other devices.

The Office alleges that Krishnamurthy discloses a state table at Figure 6 and column 10, lines 59-64. Krishnamurthy describes a universal site server which is configurable from remote locations via internet browser technology. Krishnamurthy depicts a web page in Figure 6 by which a user can edit a system configuration table of the site server from a remote computer to customize factory default values of site server. (See, Krishnamurthy at column 10, lines 49-65.) However, Krishnamurthy fails to teach or suggest that a copy of this system configuration table is kept by any remote computer, or suggest updating such copies via change notifications of changes to the table.

In summary, Lawson and Krishnamurthy either individually or in combination fail to teach or suggest that possibly many user controller devices obtain a copy of a state table of a controlled device, and then updating such copies via change notifications so that the user controller device's device control interfaces reflect the current operational state of the controlled device.

For this reason, claims 1-6 should be allowable over this art.



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Conclusion

The application should now be allowable over the art of record. Such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By



Stephen A. Wight
Registration No. 37,759

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 226-7391
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446

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